



**United States
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**Agricultural
Marketing
Service**

**Tobacco
Division**

Official Standard Grades for Puerto Rican Cigar-Filler Tobacco (U.S. Type 46)

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(U.S. Type 46)

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**Official Standard Grades For Puerto Rican
Cigar-Filler Tobacco (U.S. Type 46)**

DEFINITIONS

Definitions. As used in these standards, the words and phrases hereinafter defined shall have the indicated meanings so assigned.

Air-cured. Tobacco cured under natural atmospheric conditions. Artificial heat is sometimes used to control excess humidity during the curing period to prevent pole-sweat, pole-burn, and shedburn in damp weather. Air-cured tobacco should not carry the odor of smoke or fumes resulting from the application of artificial heat.

Body. The thickness and density of a leaf or the weight per unit of surface.

Class. A major division of tobacco based on method of cure or principal usage.

Clean. Tobacco is described as clean when it contains only a normal amount of sand or soil particles. Leaves grown on the lower portion of the stalk normally contain more dirt or sand than those from higher stalk positions. (See Rule 4.)

Condition. The state of tobacco which results from the method of preparation or from the degree of fermentation. Words used to describe the condition of tobacco are: undried, air-dried, steam-dried, sweating, sweated, and aged.

Crude. A subdegree of maturity. A condition similar to crude may result from sunburn or sunscald. Any leaf which is crude to the extent of 20 percent of its leaf surface may be described as crude. (See Rule 14.)

Cured. Tobacco dried of its sap by either natural or artificial processes.

Damage. The effect of mold, must, rot, black rot, or other fungus or bacterial diseases which attack tobacco in its cured state. Tobacco having the odor of mold, must, or rot is considered damaged. (See Nondescript, N Group.)

Dirty. The state of tobacco containing an abnormal amount of dirt or sand. (See Rule 15.)

Foreign matter. Any extraneous substance or material such as stalks, straw, or abnormal amounts of dirt or sand. (See Rule 15.)

Form. The stage of preparation of tobacco such as stemmed or unstemmed.

Grade. A subdivision of a type according to group and quality and to other characteristics when they are of sufficient importance to be treated separately.

Grademark. A symbol or a combination of symbols designated to identify standard grades. A letter is used to indicate group and a number to indicate quality. In Type 46 the third factor denotes: F, thin to medium body; P, heavy body; T, second crop; or S, stained. For example, C1P means Strippers, first quality, heavy body.

Group. A type division consisting of one or more grades. Groups in Type 46 are: Strippers (C), Grinders (X), Nondescript (N), and Scrap (S).

Injury. Hurt or impairment from any cause except the fungus or bacterial diseases which attack tobacco in its cured state. (See definition of Damage.) Injury to tobacco may be caused by field diseases, insects, or weather conditions; insecticides, fungicides, or cell growth inhibitors; nutritional deficiencies or excesses; or improper fertilizing, harvesting, curing, or handling. Injured tobacco includes dead, burnt, hail-cut, torn, broken, ragged, sunburned, sunscalded, scorched, fire-killed, bulk-burnt, pole-burnt, barn-burnt, house-burnt, bleached, bruised, blackened, discolored, or deformed leaves; or tobacco affected by wildfire, rust, frogeye, mosaic, root rot, wilt, black shank, or other diseases. (See Rule 12.)

Leaf scrap. A byproduct of unstemmed tobacco. Leaf scrap results from handling unstemmed tobacco and consists of loose and tangled whole or broken leaves.

Length. The linear measurement of cured tobacco leaves from the butt of the midrib to the extreme tip.

Lot. A pile, basket, bulk, or more than one bale, case, hogshead, tierce, package, or other definite package unit.

Maturity. The degree of ripeness. Tobacco is mature when it reaches its prime state of development.

Nested. Any tobacco which has been loaded, packed, or arranged to conceal foreign matter or tobacco of inferior grade, quality, or condition. Nested includes any lot of tobacco which contains foreign matter or damaged, injured, tangled, or other inferior tobacco, any of which cannot be readily detected upon inspection because of the way the lot is packed or arranged. (See Rule 15.)

No grade. A designation applied to a lot of tobacco classified as nested, offtype, semicured, or wet; tobacco that is abnormally dirty or improperly baled, contains foreign matter, or has an odor foreign to the type. (See Rules 3 and 15.)

Offtype. Tobacco of distinctly different characteristics which cannot be classified in the grades of the type. (See Rule 15.)

Order (case). The state of tobacco with respect to its moisture content.

Package. A bundle, bale, case, or other securely enclosed parcel.

Packing. A lot of tobacco consisting of a number of packages submitted as one definite unit for sampling or inspection. It is represented to contain the same kind of tobacco and has a common identification number or mark on each package.

Quality. A division of a group or the second factor of a grade based upon the stated specifications.

Semicured. Tobacco in the process of being cured or which is partially but not thoroughly cured. Semicured includes tobacco which contains fat stems, wet butts, or tobacco that has not been thoroughly dried in the curing process. (See definition of No Grade and Rule 15.)

Side. A certain phase of quality as contrasted with some other phase of quality, or any peculiar characteristic of tobacco.

Sound. Free of damage.

Stained (S). A term applied to tobacco that is blackened, bruised, or discolored by excessive moisture. Any leaf affected 10 percent or more by any of these conditions may be described as stained. (See Rule 13.)

Stem. The midrib or large central vein of a tobacco leaf.

Stemmed. A form of tobacco, including strips and strip scrap, from which the stems or midribs have been removed.

Strips. The sides of tobacco leaves from which the stems have been removed or a lot of tobacco composed of strips.

Sweated. The condition of tobacco which has passed through one or more fermentations natural to tobacco packed with a normal percentage of moisture. This condition is sometimes described as fermented.

Sweating. The condition of tobacco in the process of fermentation.

Tobacco. Tobacco in its unmanufactured forms as it appears between the time it is cured and stripped from the stalk, or primed and cured, and the time it enters a manufacturing process. Conditioning sweating, and stemming are not regarded as manufacturing processes.

Tobacco products. Manufactured tobacco, including cigarettes, cigars, smoking tobacco chewing tobacco, and snuff, which is subject to Internal Revenue tax.

Type. A division of a class of tobacco having certain common characteristics and closely related grades. Tobacco which has the same characteristics and corresponding qualities, colors, and lengths is classified as one type, regardless of any factors of historical or geographical nature which cannot be determined by an examination of the tobacco.

Type 46. That type of cigar-leaf tobacco, commonly known as Puerto Rican filler, produced principally in the inland and semicoastal areas of Puerto Rico.

Undried. The condition of unfermented tobacco which has not been air-dried or steam-dried.

Uniformity. A grade requirement designating the percentage of a lot which must meet the stated specifications. (See Rule 11.)

Unstemmed. A form of tobacco, including whole leaf and leaf scrap, from which the stems or midribs have not been removed.

Unsweated. The condition of cured tobacco which has not been sweated.

Wet (high-case). Any sound tobacco containing excessive moisture to the extent that it is in unsafe or doubtful-keeping order. Wet applies to any tobacco which is not damaged but which is likely to damage if treated in the customary manner. (See Rule 15.)

RULES

Rules. The application of these standard grades shall be in accordance with the following rules.

Rule 1. Each grade shall be treated as a subdivision of a particular type. When the grade is stated in an inspection certificate, the type also shall be stated.

Rule 2. The determination of a grade shall be based upon a representative sample or a thorough examination of a lot of tobacco.

Rule 3. Tobacco leaves shall be placed straight in bundles or bales of normal weight, size, and shape with the butts out and tips overlapping sufficiently to make a level, solid, and uniform pack. The sides of the bundles or bales shall be completely covered with burlap or other suitable protective material. Improperly packed tobacco shall be designated ``No - G."

Rule 4. Standard grades shall be assigned to clean tobacco only.

Rule 5. The grade assigned to any lot of tobacco shall be a true representation of the tobacco at the time of inspection and certification. If, at any time, it is found that a lot of tobacco does not comply with the specifications of the grade previously assigned, it shall not thereafter be represented as such grade.

Rule 6. Any lot of tobacco which meets the specifications of two grades shall be placed in the higher grade. Any lot of tobacco on the marginal line between two grades shall be placed in the lower grade.

Rule 7. A lot of tobacco meets the specifications of a grade when it is not lower in any degree than the minimum specifications of such grade.

Rule 8. In determining the grade of a lot of tobacco, the lot as a whole shall be considered. Irregularities which do not affect over one percent of the tobacco shall be overlooked.

Rule 9. Interpretations, the use of specifications, and the meaning of terms shall be in accordance with determinations or clarifications made by the Chief of the Standards and Testing Branch and approved by the Director of the Tobacco Division, Consumer and Marketing Service.

Rule 10. The use of any grade may be restricted by the Director during any marketing season when it is found that the grade is not needed or appears in insufficient volume to justify its use.

Rule 11. Uniformity shall be expressed in terms of percentages. These percentages shall govern the portion of a lot which must meet each specification of the grade; the remaining portion must be closely related. Specified percentages of uniformity shall not affect limitations established by other rules.

Rule 12. Injury tolerance shall be expressed in terms of a percentage. The appraisal of injury shall be based upon the percentage of affected leaf surface or the degree of injury.

Rule 13. First quality tobacco stained 30 percent or less shall be graded X1S. Any tobacco stained over 30 percent but not more than 75 percent shall be graded X2S. Tobacco stained over 75 percent shall be graded ``N."

Rule 14. Any lot containing 20 percent or more of crude tobacco shall be designated by the symbol ``N."

Rule 15. Tobacco shall be classified No. Grade, using the designation ``No - G," when it is abnormally dirty, improperly baled, nested, offtype, semicured, wet, contains foreign matter, or has an odor foreign to the type.

GRADES

Strippers (C Group). Tobacco that is free of stain and is of long filler stemming quality.

U.S. Grades	Grade Names and Specification
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C1F First Quality Thin Strippers.

Eighty-five percent must be thin to medium bodied, mature, and 13 inches or over in length. Injury tolerance, 15 percent.

C1P First Quality Heavy Strippers.

Eighty-five percent must be heavy bodied, mature, and 13 inches or over in length. Injury tolerance, 15 percent.

Grinders (X Group). Short fillers or grinders.

U.S. Grades	Grade Names and Specifications
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X1F First Quality Thin Grinders.

Seventy percent must be thin to medium bodied, mature, and 8 inches or over in length. Injury tolerance, 30 percent.

X1P First quality Heavy Grinders.

Seventy percent must be heavy bodied, mature, and 8 inches or over in length.
Injury tolerance, 30 percent.

X1S First Quality Stained Grinders.

Seventy percent must be thin to heavy bodied, mature, and 8 inches or over in length. Tolerances: 30 percent injury and 30 percent stained.

X2F Second Quality Thin Grinders.

Thin to medium bodied and over 30 percent injury tolerance; any yellow tobacco; or tobacco pole-burnt over 30 percent.

X2P Second Quality Heavy Grinders.

Heavy bodied and over 30 percent injury tolerance; any hard or woody tobacco.

X2T Second Quality Second Crop Grinders.

Thin to heavy-bodied sucker leaves and over 30 percent injury tolerance.

X2S Second Quality Stained Grinders.

Thin to heavy bodied. Tolerances: Over 30 percent injury and over 30 percent but not more than 75 percent stained.

Nondescript (N Group).

U.S. Grade	Grade Name and Specifications
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N	Nondescript.
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Moldy, musty, or otherwise damaged tobacco; or tobacco bruised, blackened stained, or injured over 75 percent.

Scrap (S Group).

U.S. Grade	Grade Name and Specifications
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S	Scrap.
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Loose, tangled, whole or broken leaves or the web portions of leaves reduced to scrap by any process. Scrap is free of strings, paper, excessive dirt, and other foreign matter.

SUMMARY OF STANDARD GRADES

2 Grades of Strippers

C1F C1P

7 Grades of Grinders

X1F X1P X1S
X2F X29 X2T X2S

1 Grade of Nondescript

N

1 Grade of Scrap

S

Tobacco not covered by standard grades is designated ``No - G."

KEY TO STANDARD GRADEMARKS

Groups

C - Strippers
X - Grinders
N - Nondescript
S - Scrap

Qualities

1 - First
2 - Second

Third factors

F - Thin to medium body
P - Heavy body
T - Second crop
S - Stained